How's This Whopper?

We've published many pictures of anglers and their prize catches during the past year but few have caught the genuine joy shown here by three-and-a-half-year-old Russel Hayden, 3903 Cadboro Bay Road. He hooked this grilse, his first fish, last September.

IT BEATS ME

By Jim Tang

It's disconcerting, but true, that at each year's end I find it difficult to recall the highlights of the past 365 days. Perhaps it is the enforced association night after night with sports news, perhaps the Christmas holidays have left me slowed mentally as well as stopped physically, perhaps it's just bad memory or it could be the rush to get away early to help hail the New Year. Whatever it is, not too many things come to mind tonight, and this after one of the most eventful sports years for some time.

It did, of course, provide many a thrill and plenty of entertainment. I remember as one of the biggest thrills of all the provincial curling finals at Penticton, where Tony Gutoski, Bill Dunstan, Gary Leibel and Dale Dalziel performed with an eye-popping excellence to win the right to represent British Columbia in the Canadian championships at Memorial Arena last March.

And the Brier playdowns themselves were an event not to be easily forgotten. It makes one proud to have had a small part in the arrangements which made this one truly "the best Brier yet" and which still have curlers talking about the great organizational job done under Brier-chairman Ernie Gordon.

Fresh in memory is that tremendous Grey Cup game, certainly over the full 60 minutes as interesting a Canadian football final as was ever played. Being able to be in Empire Stadium to watch the drama unfold has to be one of the year's big moments.

And then there was the Daily Colonist King Fisherman Contest, perhaps the largest competition of its kind anywhere. It was frightfully routine at times and there were occasions as the entry forms piled up when one wondered if he hadn't been saddled with more than he could pack. But when it was all over it had been worth all the work and worry. No associations can be better than those you have with fishermen.

* * *

To me, one of the biggest thrills of the year was the return of Maurice Richard last spring after an injury had all but ended his career. No hockey fan could help but applaud, even 3,000 miles away, as one of sports' great competitors came back to lead his club to the Stanley Cup by scoring 11 goals and assisting on four others in the 10 games it took Montreal Canadiens to sidetrack Detroit Red Wings and Boston Bruins.

For pleasurable enjoyment, it was hard to beat the hours spent before the television set marvelling at the excellence of play in National Football League games. As far as this viewer is concerned, they are about the only "don't miss" thing the magic eye offers regularly.

* * *

The year also provided its humor and its disappointments. In the former category, one thinks first of the football game at Royal Athletic Park played in fog so thick that no one saw the inspired fans who carted away one set of goal posts but to those of us who have been privileged to be on hand, nothing is more mirth-provoking than Bill Purdy at a bonspiel.

To George Chuvalo goes the dubious distinction of being the year's biggest disappointment. Touted as Canada's first real heavyweight hope in decades, the big Toronto youngster not only showed he couldn't fight but showed little liking for it in his match against Pat McMurtry, a fellow who couldn't last a round against hulking Nino Valdes. Locally, the Shamrocks had an unhappy season, a once great club reaching the stage where it had to be rebuilt.

There were other events and accomplishments which rate far more than passing notice and which provided more than a modicum of entertainment and entertaining discussion—the ouster of Colin Kilburn as manager-coach of the Cougars, the winning of the Canadian junior basketball championship by Bill Garner's Victoria College Vikings, another Western Canada lacrosse championship for the junior Shamrocks, the individual accomplishments of Bob Wheaton, Susan Butt, Sharon Whittaker, John Fraser, Maureen Bray, Laurie Kerr and the many other fine Victoria athletes.

Yes, it has been a good year for us on this "beat." A lot of what we do is work but when it is all summed up, we have more chances to enjoy our work than most. We are looking ahead to another interesting, eventful 12 months and our wish tonight to all of you is A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

* * *

GUESSING DEPARTMENT: The Cougars, Stampeders and Flyers in tonight's WHL play; the Canadiens and Boston in the NHL; Iowa, Texas Christian, Louisiana State and Oklahoma in today's football bowl games. Batting averages for 1958: At bat 117, hits 77, percentage .658. Lifetime batting average: At bat 4,716, hits 3,223, percentage .683.

City Rugby Coach Heads Japan Side

By JIM TAYLOR

Lt.-Cmdr. Dave Mackenzie, coach of Victoria Crimson Tide, has been named to the most sought-after position in B.C. rugby.

In a move that was something of a triumph for city rugby officials, the B.C. Rugby Union appointed the former international player as manager of the B.C. side that will tour Japan Feb. 24-March 24.

Mackenzie learned of the appointment in a letter from the BCRU, which also named him to the five-man committee which will select the 23-man team. Kenny Banks, coach of the Vancouver rep team, will be assistant manager.

Mackenzie, now at HMCS Venture, still has to receive official permission from the Navy to make the trip; but no difficulty is expected on that score.

VIA FRISCO

The team will be selected Jan. 10. It will leave San Francisco via Japanese Airlines and play eight games in four Japanese cities during the month-long tour. Three will be test matches against an all-Japan representative team in Tokyo.

Victoria is almost certain to have strong representation on the team, although players will be picked on the basis of performance up until the Jan. 10 game in Vancouver between the Tide and Vancouver Reps.

Those considered most likely to represent the Victoria Rugby Union are four forwards—Chris Pollard, Peter Clarke and Paul Beck of Oak Bay Wanderers, and veteran Harry Turner of James Bay Athletic Association.

BIG MATCH

The Tide plays Vancouver Reps Saturday at Macdonald Park at 2.30, and all members of the five-man selection committee will be present.

The game is the first in the annual McKechnie Cup inter-city competition between Victoria, Vancouver Reps and University of British Columbia.

WELL QUALIFIED

Mackenzie is well qualified for the managerial position. A former Scottish international player, he was capped seven times during the 1947-48 season.

He captained and played for B.C.'s rep side in 1953, and coached the Canadian Royal Naval College side in Greenwich from 1956-58 before returning to Victoria in time to take up his present position with the Tide.

Mackenzie is also a former track star, and ran for Britain in the 400 metres in the 1948 Olympic Games.

Big Chance For Cougars

Victoria Cougars, who actually have more than designs on a playoff spot this season, can practically make certain of post-season play in the next two weeks, the Western Hockey League schedule giving them a great chance to leave the pursuing New Westminster Royals and Spokane Spokes far behind.

Starting at Memorial Arena this afternoon with a holiday game against the Royals, the Cougars will play the Royals three times and the Spokes four times (for 10 points) within the next 14 days.

Following today's game, the Cougars go to Spokane for games on Saturday and Sunday with the Sunday set to counting four points, or two victories. The four-pointers are necessary because of the change back to a 70-game schedule. Because the Spokes are unable to get ice time, their three "extra" home games will be four-pointers.

COUGARS SKATING

In any event, this is one time that the scheduling certainly leaves the Cougars with an edge. The club is skating at top form and it will get the Spokes just back from a tough Prairie trip and also minus Max Mekilok, their top scorer who is out of action, probably for the season, with a cracked knee cap.

First, however, comes today's game against the Royals, who snapped out of a slump Tuesday night by trouncing Vancouver Canucks, 7-1.

"We would sure like to start the New Year right," manager-coach Pat Egan said last night as he disclosed he planned no line-up changes for today's game.

WON'T CHANGE

"I'll go with the same combinations as we have been using," he said. "Our forward lines are playing sound hockey and while a few fellows haven't been getting their goals, all have been helping out by taking care of their checking. I may have to make a change on defence but as long as we keep winning I'll go with a winning line-up."

Cougars have enjoyed fine success against the Royals this season, losing only once to Hal Laycoe's club while tying one and winning four times. Royals were beaten twice in the Cougars' latest streak, which has now reached three straight wins.

Leafs Shut Out Montreal; Rangers, Hawks Move Up

Ed Chadwick, still performing in brilliant fashion since being called off the bench, continued his personal campaign to get Toronto Maple Leafs out of the National Hockey League basement last night, hanging a 2-0 shutout on the mighty Montreal Canadiens at Toronto.

It was the third shutout of the season for the 25-year-old netminder and his second in four games since he came off the bench to replace Johnny Bower. In those four games, of which the Leafs have won three, Chadwick has given up only six goals, and the Leafs are now only five points behind Boston Bruins with three games in hand.

	GP	W	L	T	F	A	Pts.
Montreal	35	21	9	5	132	74	47
Detroit	35	16	16	3	85	89	35
New York	35	13	13	9	97	98	35
Chicago	35	13	14	8	96	111	34
Boston	37	14	18	5	97	113	33
Toronto	34	10	17	8	78	100	28

Last night's scores: Montreal 0 at Toronto 2; Boston 3 at New York 4; Chicago 4 at Detroit 2.

Next games: tonight, Montreal at Chicago; New York at Boston.

Bruins slipped into fifth place as they lost a 4-3 decision to New York Rangers at New York. In last night's other game, Chicago Black Hawks vaulted to fourth, one point behind Detroit and the Rangers, with a 4-2 win over the Red Wings.

TWO HEROES

Billy Harris and rookie Gerry Ehman, along with Chadwick, were the heroes for the Leafs, who took advantage of one of the most off-color performances of the season by the Canadiens.

Harris was set up by Frank Mahovlich to score at 18.28 of the first period. Then at 5.45 of the final period Ehman snapped up a rebound of a shot by Tim Horton and blasted it past Jacques Plante.

Chadwick made 27 stops, 12 of them in the first period, to score what was only the second shutout posted against the Canadiens this season. Boston Bruins got the other.

RUSSIANS, TOO

At New York, a crowd of 10,056—including members of Russia's national team, saw Andy Hebenton and Red Sullivan score two rapid fire goals in the third period to break a 2-2 tie. Don McKenny then brought the Bruins back within a single goal.

Andy Bathgate scored his 21st goal for the Rangers and added two assists to bring his point total to 44 and move within four of league-leading Bernie Geoffrion of the Canadiens. Fleming Mackell and Vic Stasiuk got the other Boston goals.

At Detroit, three Red Wing castoffs sparked the Black Hawks to their win. Lorne Ferguson and Ted Lindsay each scored once, while goalie Glenn Hall made a total of 32 stops compared to 13 for Detroit's Terry Sawchuk.

Bobby Hull and Ed Litzenberger got the other Chicago goals. Len Lunde and Gordie Howe replied for Detroit.

BOSTON 3, NEW YORK 4

FIRST PERIOD

1. Boston, Mackell (McKenney, Labine) .46.
2. Boston, Stasiuk 14.06.
3. New York, Prentice (Bathgate, Ingarfield) 15.08.

Penalties: Harina 3.6, Flaman 5.49, Bartlett 9.14, Mohns 10.13, Howell 10.13, 16.37.

SECOND PERIOD

4. New York, Bathgate (Henry, Sullivan) 13.18.

Penalties: Bucyk 13.07, Shack, Gadsby (misconducts) 15.46.

THIRD PERIOD

5. New York, Hebenton (Sullivan, Bathgate) 3.31.
6. New York, Sullivan (Howell, Hebenton) 5.47.
7. Boston, McKenney (Flaman) 12.12.

Penalties: Boivin 2.07, Henry 5.16, Stasiuk (minor and major) Fontinato (major) 17.21.

Stops:

Simmons	8	7	3	—18
Worsley	10	6	7	—23

MONTREAL 0, TORONTO 2

FIRST PERIOD

1. Toronto, Harris (Mahovlich) 18.28.

Penalties: Johnson 3.05, Olmstead 10.45, Brewer 14.41.

SECOND PERIOD

No scoring.

Penalties: Langlois 7.31, Ehman, McDonald 14.39.

THIRD PERIOD

2. Toronto, Ehman (Horton, Mahovlich) 5.45.

Penalties: Pulford, Moore 8.06, Talbot 11.32.

Stops:

Plante	7	11	10	—28
Chadwick	12	7	8	—27

DETROIT 2, CHICAGO 4

FIRST PERIOD

No scoring.

Penalties: Pilote (minor and misconduct) 2.10, Kennedy 6.44.

SECOND PERIOD

1. Chicago, Ferguson (McKenzie) 5.10.
2. Detroit, Lunde (Pronovost, Mortson) 8.45.
3. Chicago, Lindsay (Sloan, Litzenberger) 11.31.

Penalty: McNeil 10.51.

THIRD PERIOD

4. Chicago, Hull (Murphy) 8.37.
5. Chicago, Litzenberger 10.56.
6. Detroit, Howe (Delvecchio, Kelly) 19.36.

Penalties: Vasko, 17.56, Burns 17.56.

Stops:

Hall	8	14	10	—32
Sawchuk	2	5	6	—13

Bowl Game TV Lineups

9.45 a.m.—Orange Bowl, Oklahoma vs. Syracuse, channels 7 and 12.

10.45 a.m.—Sugar Bowl, Louisiana State vs. Clemson, channel 4.

12.30 p.m.—Cotton Bowl, Air Force Academy vs. Texas Christian, channels 7 and 12.

1.45 p.m. — Rose Bowl Iowa vs. California, channels 2, 4 and 6.

FAN FARE

By Walt Ditzen

Amateur Prize To Glen Davis

NEW YORK (AP) — Glen Davis, Olympic 400-metre hurdle champion, Wednesday was named winner of the James E. Sullivan Memorial Award.

The award is presented annually by the United States amateur Athletic Union to the amateur athlete who by "performance, example and good influence did most to advance the cause of good sportsmanship during the year."

Eddie James Dead at 50 In Winnipeg

WINNIPEG — Eddie (Dynamite) James, football star of the '30s and father of present Blue Bomber stalwart Gerry James, died here in hospital yesterday of a liver ailment. He was 50.

Eddie James entered hospital last Sunday and underwent an operation.

Terror of western gridirons more than 20 years ago, James played for Winnipeg in 1935 when the club was the first western team to win the Grey Cup.

First Prize Theirs

Winners of Victoria Curling Club primary event are, left to right, Harry Holmes, Joe Dukowski, Jim Tang and Larry Guernsey.—(Colonist photo.)

* * *

Bonspiel Winners

Annual Commercial Bonspiel concluded at Victoria Curling Club Tuesday night and these rinks emerged with two of the top prizes. The "family" rink (left) of Dick (skip), Edythe, Roger and John Pick won the J. C. Switzer Trophy. Winners of the consolation event (right) were (top to bottom) Bill Brown, Bob Rosenfelt, Ron Webster (skip) and Ernie Ebner—(Photos by Boucher.)

Peru Acclaims New Sport Hero

LIMA, Peru — Peru has a new national hero today—a tennis miracle man by the name of Alejandro Olmedo.

Olmedo won two singles matches and teamed with Ham Richardson in a doubles victory over Australia to give the American team the Davis Cup amateur tennis championship, a feat that is driving his countrymen wild with pride.

Olmedo was acclaimed and decorated in absentia by the Peruvian government, his family and leading sportsmen of his native country. President Manuel Prado cabled his congratulations to Australia, and the Senate instructed that Olmedo be decorated with the Order of Sport.

FUND STARTED

The Peruvian Basketball Federation bowed to its rival sport and immediately began a subscription fund to buy Olmedo's parents a home. They now live on the grounds of the Arequipa Tennis Club, where the father is employed as caretaker.

Jorge Harten, president of the Peruvian Tennis Federation who discovered Olmedo, said that "without a doubt he is the No. 1 player in the world."

In Brisbane, Australia, the 22-year-old "lend-lease miracle" of the American team described his win over Ashley Cooper as "the greatest thrill of my life." He also said that he has no immediate plans to turn professional, although promoter Jack Kramer is reportedly interested in signing him.

FINAL COUNT, 3-2

Final count in the Davis Cup series was 3-2 for the U.S. After Olmedo clinched it with his singles victory, Barry MacKay was beaten by Mal Anderson of Australia, 7-5, 13-11, 11-9, in a meaningless match.

Olmedo, U.S. intercollegiate champion, has resided in California for the past five years and was therefore eligible for the American team.

Hogmanay Soccer Crowd Limited

D' Ye Ken This, Jock?

By ROGER STONEBANKS

LONDON (CP) — It isn't often that owners of sports grounds — and a Scottish sports ground at that—deliberately turn away the customers before they've packed every inch of available space.

It will happen at Ibrox Park today, when 78,000 of the faithful will watch the annual clash between Rangers and Celtic, without which no Glasgow soccer fan's Hogmanay would be complete. The park's normal capacity is 100,000.

The restriction was imposed voluntarily by the park's owners, with the approval of Malcolm McCulloch, chief constable of Glasgow, who expressed the pious hope that the lucky 78,000 will check their bottles and their pugilistic tendencies at the turnstiles.

Ever since Rangers and Celtic began taking turns winning the Scottish League championship some 60 years ago, the flag-waving supporters of the two Glasgow sides have viewed each other with exuberant hostility. In the holiday atmosphere, the rivalry tends to be fanned to explosive proportions by the effects of Scotland's most famous national product.

Even in a non-holiday meeting of the two clubs on Celtic's ground last September there were 13 arrests, hundreds of fans spilled onto the field to avoid being hit by missiles and a number of people were injured. The rumpus after the match lasted for weeks.

After the battle of Celtic Park, Rangers were advised to limit the attendance on the terraces for the return match. Most soccer fans watch from the terraces, the cheapest section of the stands, and most of the incidents start there. Glasgow magistrates recommended 30,000 — the capacity is 72,000—but the agreement with the police allows for 50,000.

In addition to the crowd limitation, Glasgow police issued a press appeal and warning to spectators about their conduct. The warning was repeated just before the match. Extra police were stationed inside the ground and flag and banner waving was stamped out as far as possible.

McCulloch was confident the new measures will work and says he doesn't anticipate any trouble. But a Glasgow magistrate commented: "If he thinks he can control 50,000 there is nothing we can do about it. But on New Year's Day . . ."

HOCKEY
TODAY—2:30
COUGARS
VS.
NEW WESTMINSTER
ARENA BOX OFFICE OPENS 10 A.M.
THRU GAME TIME — PHONE EV 5-4142
SCORO $200